

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/768,673

Examiner

Courtney D. Fields

Applicant(s)

KRAMER ET AL.

Art Unit

2137

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 05 June 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 6, 7, 9-17 and 19-26.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Michael Dodd, Reg. No. 46,437 on August 1, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please amend the following claims:

6. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with Claim ~~5~~[1], wherein the specific act of the external client providing security to the connection comprises:

a specific act of the external client using a Secure Socket Layer (SSL) protocol to provide security to the connection.

7. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with Claim ~~5~~[1], wherein the specific act of the external client providing security to the connection comprises:

a specific act of the external client using a Wireless Transport Layer Security (WTLS) to provide security to the connection.

9. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with Claim 8-[1], wherein the **[Virtual Private Network]** (VPN) access server is implemented on the same server machine as a proxy server that serves the private network.

10. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with Claim 8-[1], wherein the **[Virtual Private Network]** (VPN) access server is implemented on a different server machine than a proxy server that serves the private network.

#### **DETAILED ACTION**

2. Claims 6-7 and 9-10 have been amended.
3. Claims 5,8, and 18 have been cancelled.
4. Claims 1-4,6-7,9-17, and 19-26 are pending.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's remarks filed 28 October 2005 have been fully considered and they are persuasive.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

6. **Claims 1-4,6-7,9-17, and 19-26** are allowed.
7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention is directed towards a method and apparatus for establishing a secure connection to a virtual private network access server over a public network without the user being restricted to communication through the private network. Each independent claim identifies the uniquely distinct features "**establishing a connection with a virtual**

**private network access server of the private network over the public network using the communication device, the virtual private network server providing the external client access to the private network as though the external client is part of the private network".** The closest prior art, Grangtes, Jr. (US Patent No. 6,324,648) discloses a computer system providing authenticated access for a client computer over an insecure, public network to one of a plurality of destination servers on private, secure network, through the use of a client-side X.509 digital certificate. However, either singularly or in combination, Grangtes, Jr. fail to anticipate or render the claimed limitation of establishing a connection with a virtual private network access server of the private network over the public network using the communication device, the virtual private network server providing the external client access to the private network as though the external client is part of the private network. The closest prior art, Subramaniam et al. (US Patent No. 6,081,900) discloses computer network security, and more particularly to the task of providing a user who is presently at a client machine outside the perimeter of a secure network with convenient, efficient, and secure access to data stored on a target server which is located within the secure network. However, either singularly or in combination, Subramaniam et al. fail to anticipate or render the claimed limitation of establishing a connection with a virtual private network access server of the private network over the public network using the communication device, the virtual private network server providing the external client access to the private network as though the external client is part of the private network. The closest prior art, King (US Patent No. 6,317,831) discloses a method and apparatus for establishing a

secure connection over a one-way data path. The techniques enable cryptographic handshake operations for a one-way data channel to be performed over a companion two-way data channel so that the one-way data channel is able to effectively satisfy security protocols that require two-way communications for the cryptographic handshake operations. However, either singularly or in combination, King fail to anticipate or render the claimed limitation of establishing a connection with a virtual private network access server of the private network over the public network using the communication device, the virtual private network server providing the external client access to the private network as though the external client is part of the private network. The closest prior art, Xu et al. (US Patent No. 6,151,628) discloses a method for providing network access connection from a source of digital data to a computer network. However, either singularly or in combination, Xu et al. fail to anticipate or render the claimed limitation of establishing a connection with a virtual private network access server of the private network over the public network using the communication device, the virtual private network server providing the external client access to the private network as though the external client is part of the private network. The closest prior art, Dr. James H. Scharen-Guivel, "Wireless Virtual Private Networks in the Mobile Enterprise", discloses a virtual private network that supports remote access and establishes a method for end-to-end security from a wireless device to the enterprise. However, either singularly or in combination, Dr. James H. Scharen-Guivel fail to anticipate or render the claimed limitation of establishing a connection with a virtual private network access server of the private network over the public network using the

communication device, the virtual private network server providing the external client access to the private network as though the external client is part of the private network. The closest prior art, Laurence Lee Min En, "Wireless Application Protocol Wireless Transport Layer Security (WAP WTLS)", discloses a security protocol that bridges the gap between wireless and the Internet. The security protocol is designed to transmit data from a terminal to an application server. However, either singularly or in combination, Laurence Lee Min En fail to anticipate or render the claimed limitation of establishing a connection with a virtual private network access server of the private network over the public network using the communication device, the virtual private network server providing the external client access to the private network as though the external client is part of the private network.

8. Therefore, **claims 1,12,19, and 22**, and the respective **dependent claims 2-4,6-7,9-17,20-21 and 23-26** are in condition for allowance.

### ***Conclusion***

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Courtney D. Fields whose telephone number is 571-

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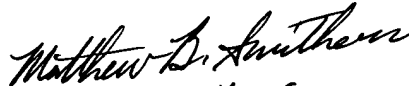
272-3871. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs. 6:00 - 4:00 pm; off every Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
cdf

August 1, 2006

  
Matthew Smithers  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2137